

**H.R. 910-- THE ENERGY TAX PREVENTION ACT OF 2011**  
**HOUSE FLOOR**  
**STATEMENT OF FRED UPTON**  
**APRIL 6, 2011**

Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, last November Americans spoke with a clear voice. They told us we needed to get the country working again. They told us big government was not the solution. They told us to lead or get out of the way on the economy.

Well, Mr. Chairman, today the House has a chance to vote for a bill that directly responds to the demands of the American people.

This legislation will remove the biggest regulatory threat to the American economy. This is a threat imposed not by Congress, but entirely by the Obama Environmental Protection Agency.

We all know this administration wanted a cap and trade system to regulate greenhouse gases. But Congress said no.

So beginning in early 2009, EPA began putting together a house of cards to regulate emissions of carbon dioxide. The agency began with automobiles, declaring that their emissions endangered public health and welfare.

That single endangerment finding has since been used by EPA to launch an unparalleled regulatory onslaught.

The result, two years later, is a series of regulations that will ultimately affect every citizen, every job creator, every industry, really every aspect of our economy and our way of life.

Mr. Chairman, this bill is about protecting jobs. EPA regulations will hit our manufacturing sector hard, with direct limits on factory emissions and indirect costs from the higher price to power their facilities.

It will hit small businesses hard, because when the electricity to power your business and the gasoline to fuel your vehicles is more expensive, you profit less and hire fewer new employees. That's why the NFIB, the Farm Bureau, NAM, and others have endorsed H.R. 910; this is a key vote measuring our commitment to small business.

Mr. Chairman, this bill is also about energy prices for working families. Power plants will be forced to comply with strict new emission caps. They will have to purchase expensive new equipment to retrofit their facilities, and we all know the costs have nowhere to go except on families' and businesses' monthly utility bills.

And it is about gasoline prices. The refiners that turn oil into gasoline will also be caught in this web of costly regulations. When it costs more to make gasoline, it costs more to buy gasoline. And with prices already hitting \$4.00 per gallon, the last thing families need is government policies designed to make the price at the pump even higher.

I'm from Michigan. I know what a struggling economy looks like. And I think it is a travesty that this government is deliberately imposing policies that will harm job creators and working families.

And for what, Mr. Chairman, for what? EPA Administrator Jackson herself admits U.S. regulation of greenhouse gases will not affect global climate conditions. The only environmental impact may be to ship our jobs to countries with no environmental protections at all.

Mr. Chairman, at the end of the day, the EPA climate regime is all economic pain and no environmental gain. It will cause severe economic harm and promote no environmental good. This extreme regulatory agenda must be stopped in its tracks – and that's exactly what H.R. 910 would do.

So let's pass this bill today and get the American economy back on track.

I reserve the balance of my time.